

Patent Application  
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1                   1. (Original) A slitter apparatus  
2                                   comprising:  
3                   a first semi-circular member having first and  
4                   second mating surfaces;  
5                   a second semi-circular member having first  
6                   and second mating surfaces complimentary to the opposed  
7                   first and second mating surfaces of the first member;  
8                   wherein the first member is engageable with  
9                   the second member to form on engagement a cylindrical  
10                  body;  
11                  a first rectangular land having a plurality  
12                  of sidewall surfaces projecting from one of the first  
13                  or second mating surfaces of the first member wherein  
14                  the corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces  
15                  of the first rectangular land are radiused;  
16                  a first rectangular recess having a plurality  
17                  of sidewall surfaces projecting into one of the first  
18                  or second mating surfaces of the second member;  
19                  wherein the first rectangular recess is  
20                  interengageable with the first rectangular land to  
21                  provide axial and radial alignment of the first member  
22                  with the second member.

1                   2. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim 1  
2                   wherein the corners formed between adjacent sidewall  
3                   surfaces of the first rectangular recess are radiused.

3. (Cancelled)

Patent Application  
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

1                   4. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim 1  
2 wherein the corners formed between adjacent sidewall  
3 surfaces of the first rectangular recess are chamfered.

1                   5. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim 1  
2 further comprising:

3                   a second rectangular land having a plurality of  
4 sidewall surfaces projecting from the other of the first or  
5 second mating surfaces of the first member wherein the  
6 corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the  
7 second rectangular land are radiused;

8                   a second rectangular recess having a plurality of  
9 sidewall surfaces projecting into the other of the first or  
10 second mating surfaces of the second member;

11                  wherein the second rectangular recess is  
12 interengageable with the second rectangular land to provide  
13 axial and radial alignment of the first member with the  
14 second member.

6. (Cancelled)

1                   7. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim 1  
2 further comprising:

3                   a second rectangular land having a plurality of  
4 sidewall surfaces projecting from the other of the first or  
5 second mating surfaces of the second member wherein the  
6 corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the  
7 second rectangular land are radiused;

8                   a second rectangular recess having a plurality of  
9 sidewall surfaces projecting into the other of the first or  
10 second mating surfaces of the first member;

Patent Application  
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

11                wherein the second rectangular recess is  
12                interengageable with the second rectangular land to provide  
13                axial and radial alignment of the first member with the  
14                second member.

1                8. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim 1  
2                wherein the first rectangular land is centrally disposed  
3                inward from the outer edges of the mating surface from which  
4                it projects and further wherein the first rectangular recess  
5                is centrally disposed inward from the outer edges of the  
6                mating surface into which it projects such that upon  
7                engagement of the first member with the second member, the  
8                first rectangular land and the first rectangular recess are  
9                completely enclosed inside of the cylindrical body.

1                9. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim 1  
2                wherein the first land is integral with the mating surface  
3                from which it projects.

1                10. (Original)                A slitter apparatus  
2                comprising:  
3                               a first semi-circular member having a first  
4                mating surface;  
5                               a second semi-circular member having a second  
6                mating surface engageable with the first mating surface  
7                to form a cylindrical body;  
8                               a rectangular land projecting from the first  
9                mating surface of the first semi-circular member  
10                wherein the land includes no more than one planar  
11                surface substantially parallel to the first mating  
12                surface; and

Patent Application  
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

13 a rectangular recess protruding into the  
14 second mating surface of the second semi-circular  
15 member wherein the recess includes no more than one  
16 planar surface substantially parallel to the second  
17 mating surface and further wherein engagement of the  
18 land with the recess provides both axial and radial  
19 alignment of the first semi-circular member with the  
20 second semi-circular member.

1 11. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim  
2 10 wherein the land includes a plurality of sidewall  
3 surfaces projecting from the first mating surface wherein  
4 the corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the  
5 rectangular land are chamfered.

1 12. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim  
2 11 wherein the recess includes a plurality of sidewall  
3 surfaces projecting into the second mating surface wherein  
4 the corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the  
5 rectangular recess are chamfered.

13. (Cancelled)

1 14. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim  
2 10 wherein the land includes a plurality of sidewall  
3 surfaces projecting from the first mating surface wherein  
4 the corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the  
5 rectangular land are radiused.

1 15. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim  
2 14 wherein the recess includes a plurality of sidewall  
3 surfaces projecting into the second mating surface wherein

Parent Application  
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

4 the corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the  
5 rectangular recess are radiused.

16. (Cancelled)

1 17. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim  
2 10 wherein the rectangular land is centrally disposed on the  
3 first mating surface and the rectangular recess is centrally  
4 disposed in the second mating surface.

1 18. (Current amended) The slitter apparatus of  
2 claim 10 wherein the rectangular land is integral with the  
3 first mating surface.

1 19. (Original) A slitter apparatus  
2 comprising:  
3 a first semi-circular member having a first  
4 mating surface;  
5 a second semi-circular member having a second  
6 mating surface engageable with the first mating surface  
7 to form a cylindrical body;  
8 a land projecting from the first mating  
9 surface wherein the land is centrally disposed inward  
10 from the outer edges of the first mating surface such  
11 that upon engagement of the first semi-circular member  
12 with the second semi-circular member, the land is  
13 hidden inside of the cylindrical body;  
14 a recess projecting into the second mating  
15 surface wherein the recess is centrally disposed inward  
16 from the outer edges of the second mating surface such  
17 that upon engagement of the first semi-circular member

Patent Application  
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

18 with the second semi-circular member, the recess is  
19 hidden inside of the cylindrical body;  
20 wherein the land includes a first pair of  
21 planar alignment surfaces;  
22 wherein the recess includes a second pair of  
23 planar alignment surfaces complimentary to the first  
24 pair of planar alignment surfaces wherein contact of  
25 the first pair of planar alignment surfaces with the  
26 second pair of planar alignment surfaces when the land  
27 is received in the recess provides axial alignment of  
28 the first semi-circular member with the second semi-  
29 circular member;  
30 wherein the land includes a third pair of  
31 planar alignment surfaces; and  
32 wherein the recess includes a fourth pair of  
33 planar alignment surfaces complimentary to the third  
34 pair of planar alignment surfaces wherein contact of  
35 the third pair of planar alignment surfaces with the  
36 fourth pair of planar alignment surfaces when the land  
37 is received in the recess provides radial alignment of  
38 the first semi-circular member with the second semi-  
39 circular member.

1 20. (Re-presented - formerly dependent claim  
2 3) A splitter apparatus comprising:  
3 a first semi-circular member having first and  
4 second mating surfaces;  
5 a second semi-circular member having first  
6 and second mating surfaces complimentary to the opposed  
7 first and second mating surfaces of the first member;

Patent Application  
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

8                    wherein the first member is engageable with  
9                    the second member to form an engagement a cylindrical  
10                   body;

11                   a first rectangular land having a plurality  
12                   of sidewall surfaces projecting from one of the first  
13                   or second mating surfaces of the first member wherein  
14                   the corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces  
15                   of the first rectangular land are radiused;

16                   a first rectangular recess having a plurality  
17                   of sidewall surfaces projecting into one of the first  
18                   or second mating surfaces of the second member wherein  
19                   the corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces  
20                   of the first rectangular recess are radiused;

21                   wherein the radius of each corner formed  
22                   between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the first  
23                   rectangular recess is less than the radius of the  
24                   corresponding corner formed between adjacent sidewall  
25                   surfaces of the first rectangular land; and

26                   wherein the first rectangular recess is  
27                   interengageable with the first rectangular land to  
28                   provide axial and radial alignment of the first member  
29                   with the second member.

1                   21. (Re-presented - formerly dependent claim  
2                   6) A splitter apparatus comprising:

3                   a first semi-circular member having first and  
4                   second mating surfaces;

5                   a second semi-circular member having first  
6                   and second mating surfaces complimentary to the opposed  
7                   first and second mating surfaces of the first member;

Patent Application  
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

8                    wherein the first member is engageable with  
9                    the second member to form an engagement a cylindrical  
10                   body;

11                   a first rectangular land having a plurality  
12                   of sidewall surfaces projecting from one of the first  
13                   or second mating surfaces of the first member wherein  
14                   the corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces  
15                   of the first rectangular land are radiused;

16                   a second rectangular land having a plurality  
17                   of sidewall surfaces projecting from the other of the  
18                   first or second mating surfaces of the first member  
19                   wherein the corners formed between adjacent sidewall  
20                   surfaces of the second rectangular land are radiused;

21                   a first rectangular recess having a plurality  
22                   of sidewall surfaces projecting into one of the first  
23                   or second mating surfaces of the second member;

24                   a second rectangular recess having a  
25                   plurality of sidewall surfaces projecting into the  
26                   other of the first or second mating surfaces of the  
27                   second member;

28                   wherein the first rectangular recess is  
29                   interengageable with the first rectangular land to  
30                   provide axial and radial alignment of the first member  
31                   with the second member;

32                   wherein the second rectangular recess is  
33                   interengageable with the second rectangular land to  
34                   provide axial and radial alignment of the first member  
35                   with the second member; and

36                   wherein the first rectangular land is  
37                   interengageable with the first rectangular recess, and  
38                   further wherein the first rectangular land is not  
39                   interengageable with the second rectangular recess,



Patent Application  
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

40 whereby the first and second semi-circular members may  
41 be connected together only in one way to form the  
42 cylindrical body.

1 22. (Re-presented - formerly dependent claim  
2 13) A slitter apparatus comprising:  
3 a first semi-circular member having a first  
4 mating surface;  
5 a second semi-circular member having a second  
6 mating surface engageable with the first mating surface  
7 to form a cylindrical body;  
8 a rectangular land projecting from the first  
9 mating surface of the first semi-circular member  
10 wherein the land includes no more than one planar  
11 surface substantially parallel to the first mating  
12 surface and further wherein the land includes a  
13 plurality of sidewall surfaces projecting from the  
14 first mating surface wherein the corners formed between  
15 adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular land are  
16 chamfered;  
17 a rectangular recess protruding into the  
18 second mating surface of the second semi-circular  
19 member wherein the recess includes no more than one  
20 planar surface substantially parallel to the second  
21 mating surface and further wherein the recess includes  
22 a plurality of sidewall surfaces projecting into the  
23 second mating surface wherein the corners formed  
24 between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular  
25 recess are chamfered;  
26 wherein the length of the chamfer on each  
27 corner formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the  
28 rectangular recess is less than the length of the

Patent Application  
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

29 chamfer on the corresponding corner formed between  
30 adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular land; and  
31 wherein engagement of the land with the  
32 recess provides both axial and radial alignment of the  
33 first semi-circular member with the second semi-  
34 circular member.

1 23. (Re-presented - formerly dependent claim  
2 16) A splitter apparatus comprising:  
3 a first semi-circular member having a first  
4 mating surface;  
5 a second semi-circular member having a second  
6 mating surface engageable with the first mating surface  
7 to form a cylindrical body;  
8 a rectangular land projecting from the first  
9 mating surface of the first semi-circular member  
10 wherein the land includes no more than one planar  
11 surface substantially parallel to the first mating  
12 surface and further wherein the land includes a  
13 plurality of sidewall surfaces projecting from the  
14 first mating surface wherein the corners formed between  
15 adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular land are  
16 radiused;  
17 a rectangular recess protruding into the  
18 second mating surface of the second semi-circular  
19 member wherein the recess includes no more than one  
20 planar surface substantially parallel to the second  
21 mating surface and further wherein the recess includes  
22 a plurality of sidewall surfaces projecting into the  
23 second mating surface wherein the corners formed  
24 between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular  
25 recess are radiused;

Patent Application  
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1.

26                    wherein the radius of each corner formed  
27                    between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular  
28                    recess is less than the radius of the corresponding  
29                    corner formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the  
30                    rectangular land; and  
31                    wherein engagement of the land with the  
32                    recess provides both axial and radial alignment of the  
33                    first semi-circular member with the second semi-  
34                    circular member.